

Deacon of the Week:

1st Sunday: Stephen Willie
2nd Sunday: Mickey Gilliam
3rd Sunday: Kelly Coons
4th Sunday: Josh Becker

March Wedding Anniversaries

Tony & Ellen Silver 20



March Birthdays

Rita Christopher	.....	4
William Wyatt	.....	4
Shea House	.....	6
June Wilson	.....	14
Jo Harmon	.....	16
Kayla Parker	.....	20
Nova Effler	.....	24
Julie McKinney	.....	25
James Beach	.....	27
Kimberly Kite	.....	27
Samson Brooks	.....	28
Teresa Coons	.....	30



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Old Fort, NC

March 2018

Volume 52, Issue 3

THE VOICE



Last month our country suffered another tragedy when there was yet again a mass school shooting in Parkland, Fl. On a day when our nation was celebrating the prospect of love, and when countless Christians began the Lent season reflecting on their sin and need for a Savior; Nikolas Cruz walked into Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and began shooting students and teachers leaving 17 dead and numerous more injured. The media responded with questions which quickly escalated into pontificating accusations. "We need more gun control." "We need more armed teachers." "We need more mental health care reform." "It's the NRA's fault." "It's the FBI's fault." "The Democrats are to blame." "The Republicans are the reason." "It's the liberals!" "It's the conservatives!"

Sadly, tragedies like this have become all too common for this nation. Nary a day goes by that someone is killed in some senseless act of violence. I can remember laying in my dorm room at Campbell University when I first heard the news about Columbine. My brother and Martha were both in their senior year of high school. I remember being at Centrifuge in Charleston when a gun man went into a theater killing unsuspecting patrons as they watch The Dark Knight. I remember how close the shooting at Newtown struck home, because I had a child who was about to begin kindergarten. I remember too, the flurry of questions/accusations during all those incidents as well. However, I think if most of us were honest; February 14, 2018 was just a blip on our radar. We mentioned in prayer on Wednesday, discussed how tragic it was....and then moved on.

Lost in all this is the tragedy that 17 people lost their lives. 17 people left this world to meet their maker and their eternal fate. By all accounts, we can assume that all that died had reached their age of accountability. The age of when they will answer to God for how they have responded to Jesus and His offer of salvation. None of them woke up that morning saying, "Today is the last day of my life. I've made my peace with Jesus. If necessary, I'm prepared to die." None of their friends or family thought that it would be the last time they would see their loved one. The Christians who knew them thought that they had their whole lives to share Jesus with them, to witness to them, to make an eternal difference. But now?... ..Now they are gone.

If there is anything for us learn from this as Christians, it's not that we need more gun control or to more heavily guard our schools. It is that we are not guaranteed tomorrow, and neither are our loved ones. If there is any response we should have its not a political one, but a loving, evangelistic one. Those who died that day their fate is sealed. If they were Christians, their legacy will have to speak for them. The Christians who surrounded them? Their opportunity to make a difference in their lives is now gone. Are we going to be witnesses to those around us? Or are we going to politely and quietly let them die and go to hell? Are we going to learn this time? Or just ignore it and move on?

Pastor Drew

Offertory Prayer:

1st Sunday: Rhonard MacRae
2nd Sunday: Tony Silver
3rd Sunday: Arthur Burnette
4th Sunday: Alex Little

The Voice
First Baptist Church
P.O. Box 10
Old Fort, NC 28762

MARCH EVENTS

SUNDAY:

9:45 - Sunday School
11 - Worship Service
4 - Choir Practice
6 - Adult Bible Study, Youth

WEDNESDAY:

6 - Adult Bible Study/Prayer, Youth, RA's, GA's, Mission Friends,
7 - Choir Practice

Mar 4 - Church Wide Breakfast 9 am; Deacon's Meeting 7 pm

Mar 4-11 - Week of Prayer & Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

Mar 6 - Blood Drive 12:30 pm - 5 pm

Mar 7 - WMU, Baptist Men 6 pm

Mar 10 - Youth Car Wash 9 am-2pm; Youth Dress Rehearsal 3 pm-5:30 pm

Mar 11 - Youth Sunday; Daylight Saving Time Begins

Mar 17 - Children/Youth Paint Party 6-8 pm; St. Patrick's Day

Mar 20 - Homebound Committee Easter Baskets 1 pm; Newsletter Articles Due; Spring Begins

Mar 21 - Hospitality Committee Meeting 7 pm

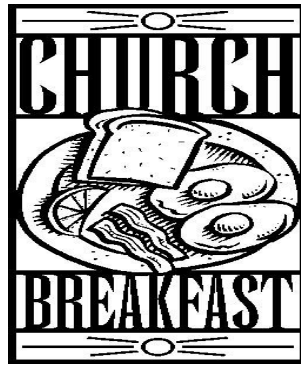
Mar 25 - Palm Sunday

Mar 30 - Good Friday; Fired Up for Christ 5-8 pm

Mar 31 - Easter Egg Hunt 10 am-1 pm

Church Staff

Rev. Drew Dalton, Pastor
Stephen Willie, Director of Music
David Workman, Pianist
Susan Willie, Secretary
Wanda Parker, Custodian
Pastor Drew 828-448-5659
Office: 828-668-7853
Fax: 828-668-7578
Email: offbc@frontier.com
Website: oldfortfirstbaptist.com



Church Wide Breakfast
Sunday, March 4th
at 9:00 am
 Please join us for food and fellowship. Breakfast will be in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish and a friend.



The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be at our church Tuesday, March 6 12:30 pm - 5:00 PM

To schedule an appointment visit redcrossblood.org. or call American Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767



The Youth will have a car wash on Saturday, March 10th from 9 am-2 pm. The Youth will also have a full dress rehearsal, for the March 11th Youth Sunday, from 3 pm-5:30 pm in the sanctuary. Students need to bring their band instruments and costumes for rehearsal. If you have questions see Nova or Josh.

The Youth will host "Fired Up for Christ" on Friday, March 30th from 5 pm-8 pm. There will be games, music, hotdogs, fire pits, and a guest speaker. Invite your friends, family, and our local churches to come join us and get "Fired Up for Christ" with fun fellowship. If you have questions see April or Josh.



Set Clocks Ahead 1 Hour



With Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy is expressed to Mary Autry in the passing of her sister, Faye Silver and to Linda Brooks in the passing of her brother-in-law, Donald Woody.

Week of Prayer & Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
 March 4-11



On March 11, we will begin a study of the Parables of Jesus on Sunday evenings. Please join us as we examine and discuss these important stories that so defined our Savior's earthly ministry.



Cleft Notes

2018 is moving right along and it won't be long before we're wondering what happened to it. Before we know it, this year will pass us by, then another, then another, and so on. A reminder that time marches on and is a respecter of no one. Have you ever given thought to the most valuable treasure you possess? What it would mean to others if you were to share your valuable treasure with them? I'm speaking of our relationship we have in Christ. I'm sure God understands how brief our lives are (like a mist which comes and is gone) and how natural it is for us to keep a good thing to ourselves. I also know that He never intended for us to keep His gift of salvation a secret from others nor to be afraid to openly share His gift with others and to help accomplish this sharing. He equips each of us with a gift to empower us as we share. The Church offers us so many opportunities to exercise these gifts openly among other Christians to help build our confidence for openly sharing in our neighborhoods and places of work. So don't be afraid to say yes when approached to help in different Church ministries. Our Lord may be preparing you for a vital task in your family or social circle. Blessed be the name of our Lord.

Bro. Stephen Willie



On Palm Sunday Christians celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem, the week before his death and resurrection. For many Christian churches, Palm Sunday, often referred to as "Passion Sunday", marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes on Easter Sunday.



Saturday, March 31
 10 am - 1 pm
 Children Age 12 and Under



There will be crafts, games, snacks and a special visitor telling the Easter Story.

Needed are prefilled plastic eggs with wrapped candies. There will be a box in the foyer to put eggs in from March 4-March 30. Youth and adults are needed to help with rotations and monitor for safety. A sign up sheet will be in the foyer. Any questions see April.

Church Photo Directory



INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN UPCOMING PHOTOGRAPHY EVENT

It's time! To celebrate our church family, we welcome you to be a part of our upcoming new directory. We need you to make our directory complete!

Lifetouch is providing the directory at no cost to our church. Every church member family photographed receives a complimentary directory and an 8x10 portrait.

Lifetouch Photography Dates:

- April 5 - 1-8 pm
- April 6 - 1-8 pm
- April 7 - 10 am - 5 pm

You can sign up for photography online at: <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y9d06446>



Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards and other kindnesses you have shown to Phil and me since his surgery and another hospitalization.

We are so blessed to be a part of a loving and caring church family.

Phil and Liz Lowery

Youth Valentine Meal

We will surely enjoy this meal! Please thank everyone who was involved with any part of planning, buying food or preparing it. Thank you for remembering us.

God Bless,
 Bill & Elsie

Thank you so much for thinking of us at Christmas. We are enjoying all the fruit and goodies.

Love,
 The James Beach's



Easter Sunrise Service & Breakfast
 April 1 at 7 am

Observance of the Lord's Supper
 April 8 at 11 am

Revival Services
 Rev. Jesse Carr
 April 8-11
 6 pm Nightly

Church Council
 April 22 at 5 pm

Quarterly Conference
 April 22 at 6 pm

WMU Tea Party
 April 28
 Blue Ridge Terrace at 2 pm

Operation INASMUCH

5th Sunday Singing
 April 29 at 6 pm